



December 18, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room # 8B-201  
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Chairman Martin,

An alarming number of people do not have access to the Internet, or have extremely slow and unreliable access and therefore do not have the resources or technology needed to fully access our economy, government services and media outlets. Such access would empower these individuals, businesses and schools and encourage full participation in our economy and services provided online.

There is a proposal in front of the FCC offering fast, free, family-friendly wireless broadband internet access to all Americans. This service would provide our citizens with the affordable, reliable and safe internet access we so desperately need. I urge you to take this proposal into great consideration as we all work to close the digital divide facing many of our constituents.

Respectfully,

*John*

John Torbett, Commissioner  
Gaston County Board of Commissioners  
Riverbend Township

CC: Commissioner Copps\*  
Commissioner Adelstein\*  
Commissioner Tate\*  
Commissioner McDowell\*  
FCC Secretary Marlene Dortch\*  
Kathy Seidel, Acting Chief, Wireless Bureau  
U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole  
U.S. Senator Richard Burr  
U.S. Representative Sue Myrick